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up and maintaining a great navy, which has a strange hold on the Pacific slope dwellers, wish to know how the Monrovia "team" did it, let them call on or write to our friend and co-worker, L. A. Maynard, who is this winter living at Monrovia, and he will let them into the secret.

The Girl Bucket Brigade.

J. W. Leeds sends us the following recent item of Philadelphia local news. It serves as an excellent practical illustration of one of the useful and unobjectionable methods of drill, without warlike weapons (such as those used by Boys' Brigades), which the opponents of war during late years have recommended. The account is from the *Public Ledger*:

A bucket brigade composed of young women yesterday saved the Industrial Home for Jewish Girls, at 6003 Lombard Street. Fire had got a good start in the main hallway shortly before noon. The twelve girls living in the home were taking part in a Bible reading in the lower class room. One of them left the room on an errand and on her way back saw smoke curling up from the floor near.

"Fire, fire!" she cried, as she ran into the class room.

The matron, Jennie Somet, and the Bible class teacher, Edna Goff, kept their heads and calmed the young woman, who had become panic-stricken. Then Mrs. Somet led her charges to the kitchen, gave each a bucket of water, and an attack on the flames was begun. The blaze had been caused by an overheated flue.

John Bottomly, a neighbor, having heard the cries of the girls, ran to their assistance and did good work with a garden hose. But credit for saving the building must be given to the bucket brigade.

New York Peace Society.

A general New York Peace Society now seems assured. On January 15 a call for a meeting to consider the subject was sent out signed by some twenty persons interested in the cause. Among them were Hon. Samuel J. Barrows, Cephas Brainerd, Prof. John B. Clark, Miss Ellen Collins, Cleveland H. Dodge, Dr. Charles E. Jefferson, Dr. H. M. Leipziger, Walter S. Logan, Chancellor MacCracken and Dr. Josiah Strong. In response to the invitation more than forty persons gathered at the Broadway Tabernacle Church on Tuesday, January 23, to consider the advisability of forming a society. A number of other persons who could not attend sent letters expressing their interest. Telegrams of greeting were received from the Directors of the American Peace Society, then in session, and from Andrew Carnegie, who was absent from the city. Rev. Charles E. Jefferson, D. D., presided. After discussion a committee was appointed, consisting of Cephas Brainerd, Prof. Charles Sprague Smith, Prof. Samuel T. Dutton, Rev. Charles E. Jefferson and Dr. Ernst Richard, to work out a

constitution, propose a name for the Society, etc. In opening the meeting Dr. Ernst Richard of Columbia University, who had been active in calling the meeting, expressed the hope that New York City might have, as she ought to have, a great peace society through which a vigorous campaign of education might be carried on, both for the winning of general public opinion, and especially for the training of the young in right ideas. We shall watch with profound interest the movement thus inaugurated in New York City, which was the seat of the first peace society ever created (August, 1815), and shall hope that "The New York Arbitration and Peace Society" — for such it might well be called — may have, in the splendid field open to it, a long and eminently useful life.

Anti-militarism in Workingmen.

The steadily growing opposition of the workingmen of Europe to the prevailing militarism and its increasing burdens is illustrated by a new anti-militarist poster in France, upon which the *Journal des Débats* comments as follows:

"The General Confederation of Labor has gotten out a new manifesto against militarism, which is to be posted up all over France and distributed through the agency of the Labor Bourses. The purpose of this manifesto is to persuade workingmen not to respond to the call in case of war. It has been drawn up with a certain prudence, inspired, doubtless, by the recent verdict of the 'Court of Assizes.' Mr. Hervé is not named. The words desertion and rebellion are avoided. Advice to take advantage of foreign war in order to stir up civil war is not expressed. There is no suggestion of getting rid of the officers by means of a few stray bullets. The authors of the poster insist that the German proletariat will adopt the same tactics as those of France, so that war will become practically impossible and its horrors be spared to both countries. . . . Finally, no signatures are attached to the compromising document."

This poster, the contents of which the *Journal des Débats* analyzes with some solicitude, and whose purpose it declares must be combatted energetically in the interests of "patriotism," etc., is of immense significance as indicative of the growing purpose of the classes in all countries on whom the cruelties and burdens of war fall most heavily to make it at the earliest practicable moment impossible. They have gotten so far now as to feel the full force of their united power, and this they will use — there is not the least doubt of it — at no distant day to paralyze and kill war, if it is not abolished by other means.

Brevities.

. . . General Nelson A. Miles, inspector-general, has recommended that the Massachusetts militia force be reduced in numbers, as he considers its aggregate strength larger than is required.

. . . At his New Year's reception, President Loubet of France, replying to Count Tornielli, Italian ambassador, dean of the diplomatic corps, said: "It is with the deepest satisfaction that I recall that the hopes for peace, the object of all our desires, which were expressed a year ago, have been fulfilled. The persuasive authority of pacific ideas was never before thus demonstrated, and we may draw therefrom the most favorable auguries."

. . . The York (Pa.) *Gazette* suggests that the battle-ships and cruisers of the navy be put to carrying freight in time of peace and thus be made to earn their keep.

. . . The Russian *Budget* statement shows that the total cost to Russia of the Russo-Japanese war was \$1,050,000,000. That is \$40 per family for every family in the Empire.

. . . The *Herald of Peace* reports that Peace Sunday was more widely observed in Great Britain this last December than ever before. The same is probably true of this country, though we have not the statistics to justify us in positively asserting that it was so.

. . . According to a recent statement in the French Chamber of Deputies, the estimates for 1906 show an increase in the war expenditure of France of nearly \$6,800,000 over 1905.

. . . Secretary Root announced on the 20th of January that Joseph H. Choate, former ambassador to England, Horace Porter, former ambassador to France, and Judge Rose of Little Rock, Arkansas, ex-president of the American Bar Association, had been chosen as representatives from the United States to the approaching Hague Conference.

. . . The proposal to renew the fortifications of Antwerp, now before the Belgian Parliament, has caused a debate of great interest. In a notable speech on the subject early last month the Minister of State declared himself squarely against the project. The fortifications, he said, would be useless; the country would never have occasion to use them. Belgium, he further declared, ought to have confidence in the countries which had neutralized it and promised to respect its liberty. The speech was received with warm approval by a section of the House. It is to be hoped that Belgium will follow the lead of the Minister and not be guilty of the extreme folly of having, at great expense, the earthworks of Antwerp, on which not a gun is now seen, turned into bristling modern fortifications.

. . . Thirty-six treaties of obligatory arbitration have now been signed, most of which have been ratified. The latest of them are those between Great Britain and Denmark, Spain and Denmark, and Italy and Denmark. This number does not include the eleven treaties which were signed by the late Secretary Hay, which failed to go into effect because of the disagreement between the President and the Senate.

. . . A French paper has estimated that each man killed in the Russo-Japanese war cost, to procure his death, \$8,000.

. . . The International Medical Association, organized only about a year ago for the purpose of aiding in the suppression of war, has already reached a membership of 600, more than 200 of whom are professors in medical institutions.

. . . President David Starr Jordan may be wrong, and probably is, in saying that a Japanese exclusion law would be followed by war between this country and Japan. But he is right in opposing with all his strength the enactment of such a law, on the ground of simple human justice. Such a law enacted at this late day, and without the least occasion of any kind for doing so, would be even a greater dishonor to the nation, if possible, than the Chinese exclusion law has been. And such a law will never be enacted, we feel absolutely sure.

. . . Sweden and Norway, having separated without bloodshed, are now proceeding with the dismantling of the fortifications on their frontiers. They have already taken away the provisions, small arms and munitions. The towers and the cannon will be taken away as soon as it can be decided what will be done with them. It is a great lesson in peace making.

. . . Mr. Fallières, the newly elected President of France, said in the Senate, just before assuming his new position: "Foreign politics will be the object of our patriotic solicitude. It is in the works of peace that France has regained her strength, restored her grandeur and taken again in the world the place which undeserved misfortunes had caused her to lose. She is pursuing her destinies with just regard for what is due her and for what she owes to other nations in the interests of the maintenance of peace."

. . . It is reported that an international conference of the Red Cross is to be held in Switzerland before the meeting of the second Hague Conference. This will probably put off the date of the latter till somewhat late in the year.

. . . The Committee of the German Peace Society has addressed a petition to the Reichstag suggesting for the program of the coming Hague Conference: (1) a limitation of the present armaments by international agreement; (2) the creation of a regular intergovernmental conference to meet periodically; (3) the organization of an administrative bureau of the intergovernmental assembly; (4) the appointment of a commission for the codification of international law; (5) an engagement of the powers to have recourse, in case of dispute, to the pacific means stipulated in the Hague Convention of July 29, 1899; and (6) the conclusion of a treaty of obligatory arbitration as general as possible.

. . . The *Australian Herald*, published in Melbourne, gives the following information: "A few friends of peace met last month and resolved to form a Peace Society in connection with the Society calling itself by this name in England. The Society is non-sectarian and cosmopolitan, and its object is to promote international good feeling and the substitution of arbitration for the barbarous expedient of war. The methods of the Society are educational—lectures, the diffusion of literature, education of the young in the principles of peace and arbitration, appeals to the churches, etc." It seems that the "Peace, Humanity and Arbitration Society" has suspended operations. The Secretary of the new Society is E. E. Dillon, Prell's Buildings, 60-67 Queen Street. We wish it a long and useful life.

. . . It is reported that the Independent Labor Party will have about twenty-seven members in the new British

Parliament, and that their immediate object will be to enter into an understanding with the Labor and Democratic parties in the colonies in order to protect the Empire against the "jingoës," and with the labor parties in France and Germany in behalf of international peace.

. . . In the treaty with Cuba touching the Isle of Pines the United States relinquishes all claim or title to the island. The treaty has been favorably acted upon by the Senate Committee on Foreign Affairs.

. . . The Cambridge Union, a strong association of professors, students and graduates of Cambridge University, England, including many men in public life, the present Prime Minister among them, has challenged the General Association of Students of Paris to a debate upon some subject to be chosen. The French Association has accepted the challenge, and two students of law, Mr. Noguères and Mr. Bokanowski, will go to Cambridge for the debate on the 20th of February. The question as proposed by the French debaters will be whether a nation ought to declare war without the consent of the people. A month later English students will go to Paris and a second debate will be held, at the Sorbonne. This international debate was arranged by Sir Thomas Barclay, whose labors for the development of better acquaintance and closer friendship between Great Britain and France have been most praiseworthy and also most successful.

. . . The German Navy League, which has grown to a membership of 800,000, is taking advantage of the results of the Russo-Japanese war to push its propaganda for the increase of the German Navy. It is circulating the following for signatures: "The experiences of the Russo-Japanese war and the seriousness of the present situation of world-politics point anew urgently to the necessity of a stronger armament on the sea in the interests of the safety of our country and the maintenance of our position and influence. It is therefore the work of the German Navy League to try to induce the Reichstag not only to accept the new naval program, but also, in view of the demands of the Triple Alliance, to insist that yearly new vessels may be substituted for those which are no longer efficient." Do these navy promoters profess to think that Japan is about to make a descent upon their dear Fatherland? If not, what are they afraid of?

. . . At the Finnish Diet at Helsingfors on the 23d of December the Russian Governor General, in the name of the Czar, formally gave back to the people of Finland their ancient liberties. The presidents of each of the four Estates—nobles, clergy, burghers, peasants—replied in cordial terms accepting the Czar's manifesto "as the restoration of the original constitution and the rights of Finland as guaranteed by Alexander I."

. . . The American Peace Society's Exhibit, which was made first at the St. Louis Exposition and then at the Lewis and Clark Exposition, Portland, Oregon, under the care of the Massachusetts Sociology Section, has been returned to the office in Boston. The Exhibit, which was prepared by a committee of which Lucia Ames Mead was chairman, was awarded a gold medal by the Committee of each of the Expositions.

. . . The California Teachers' Association, the strongest state organization of teachers in the United States,

held its annual meeting in Berkeley, California, the last week in December. Among the activities represented was the work of the American Peace Society, which had a quantity of literature for distribution on one of the tables, in charge of Mrs. Bessie Blodget of San Francisco. The literature was arranged for by Mrs. Alice L. Park, 1016 Florida Street, San Francisco.

. . . The strain between France and Venezuela, on account of the offensive treatment by President Castro of M. Taigny, the French representative at Caracas, has gone so far that three French warships have been sent to the Venezuelan coast. Two additional warships have been sent across the Atlantic to join them. Castro has been asked to make a full apology.

. . . Prominent European statesmen, educators, publicists and citizens have joined in a petition to President Roosevelt to endeavor to bring about "the concert of the powers of Europe, with the view of securing for the Armenian subjects of the Ottoman empire that condition of public peace and order of which the absence has already drawn upon that empire so many disasters, menacing it with the catastrophe of its total annihilation." The petition was prepared by M. Berthelot, formerly senator and Secretary of Foreign Affairs of France, and is signed by scores of the distinguished public men of every country in Europe. The President promised to give the appeal the most careful consideration.

. . . Some American business firms in China are said to have lost eighty per cent. of their business through the boycott, which is still in force. Some of the firms have already closed their doors. It would be a good thing if they would send representatives home to help in inducing Congress to repeal the odious Chinese exclusion law.

. . . Ginn & Co. have published in their International Library Series the Rectorial Address of Andrew Carnegie on War at St. Andrews University last October. It makes a pamphlet of forty-seven pages, and may be had at our office at ten cents per copy postpaid. In quantities we can furnish it at considerably reduced rates.

. . . The New York German Peace Society held its annual meeting on the 24th of January, after a year of excellent service. The Society has so changed its constitution that it can take in organizations as members. As a sequence of this change, the New York District of the Turnerbund has joined in a body. The membership of this organization is 2,798. This gives the Society, with its 107 individual membership, a constituency of over 2,900.

Instruction of the United States Delegates to the Second Hague Conference.

The following joint resolution providing for the instruction of the United States delegates to the approaching Hague Conference was introduced in the House of Representatives on January 20 by Hon. Richard Bartholdt, member of Congress from Missouri, and President of the Arbitration Group in Congress:

Whereas, The President of the United States has issued the original invitation to the governments signatory to the Hague Conventions to attend a second conference